

HUCKNALL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR
1939

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS
FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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To the Chairman and Members of the Hucknall Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my twenty-sixth Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of Hucknall. The long delay in its completion is due to the strange and unusual conditions which at present govern our lives and work.

The report is given in a shortened form, as suggested by the Ministry of Health, therefore some of the tables and other matter which have hitherto always been included are omitted.

I desire to express my gratitude to all the officials of the Council for their valuable co-operation during the year, and to to you, Gentlemen, I can only say how greatly I have appreciated your kindness and consideration during what I can only describe as a troublesome and onerous year of office.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER GARSTANG.

July 26th, 1940.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	4030
Population, 1938, Registrar General's estimate					19890
Population, 1939 (estimated)	...	...			20600
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939)					
according to Rate Books					5988
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£86350
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...			£317

The following information has been supplied by the Manager of the Unemployment Exchange, Mr. T. H. Goodyer. The Unemployment figures at the end of the year show a considerable decrease as compared with the two previous years. This, of course, was to be expected under prevailing conditions, and there should be a further decrease during the present year. For comparison, I give the figures for 1937 and 1938:—

					1937	1938	1939
Total number unemployed	...	...			729	631	490
Males	...	...	...	...	667	557	437
Females	...	...	...	...	54	60	50
Juveniles. Boys	...	...	...		7	10	2
Girls	...	...	...		1	4	1
No. of persons partially unemployed (all classes)	...	...	...		236	189	156
No. of persons who were employed when the count was taken but who were unemployed during some part of the same week (all classes)	...	...	...				316

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Total	M.	F.
Live Births: Legitimate	...	...	386	225	161
Illegitimate	...	...	12	7	5
Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 19.3					
Stillbirths: Legitimate	...	...	22	12	10
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births = 52.3.					
Deaths	...	...	234	129	105
Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 12.6.					

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings
29 and 30 of the Registrar General's
Short List)

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births.
No. 29, Puerperal sepsis	0	0.00
No. 30, Other puerperal causes	0	0.00

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1000 live births ...	25	62
Legitimate infants per 1000 legiti- mate live births	25	64
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegit- imate live births	0	0.00
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	20	
„ „ Measles (all ages) ...	0	
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	
„ „ Diarrhœa (under two years of age) ...	2	

POPULATION.

For the purpose of this Report, I estimate the population at 20,600. The Registrar General's figures will not be available.

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births is 398, males 232, females 166. Stillbirths were 22, males 12, females 10. The Birth rate is 19.3 per 1000 resident population. This is substantially the same as last year's figure. Births were evenly distributed over the three wards in the district.

DEATHS.

These numbered 234, males 129, females 105. The general death rate is 12.6 per 1000 population, a very slight increase over the figure for last year. Again there is no preponderance of deaths in any one ward. Diseases causing the greatest number of deaths were Heart disease 64, though a number of these might more fitly have been certified as old age; Cerebral hæmorrhage 23; Cancer 20, a smaller number than usual; Tuberculosis 12; Pneumonia, primary and influenzal, 16. Diphtheria and Influenza accounted for 1 death each, and there was 1 death in hospital certified as Meningococcal Meningitis.

The **Infant Mortality Rate** is 62 per 1000 live births, and though slightly higher than last year it may be considered satisfactory. The chief causes of infant deaths were Premature

birth 8, and Pneumonia 9, out of a full total of 25. It is a noteworthy fact that only 8 deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life.

As regards **Maternal Mortality**, I am pleased to state that there have been no deaths from Puerperal sepsis, or other diseases of pregnancy or parturition.

Inquests were held in 14 cases, the causes of death being returned as Suicide 6, Road accidents 3, Colliery accidents 2, Burns 2, and Railway accident 1. The percentage of total deaths is 6.0.

Uncertified deaths numbered 9. Seven of these were returned as due to Heart disease, one to Prematurity, and one to Epilepsy. The percentage of total deaths is 3.8.

The age groups show the usual variation. Between ages 1 and 25 there were 17 deaths, Ages 25 and 45 had 31 deaths, ages 45 to 65 had 51 deaths, ages 65 and upwards 110, of which 68 were over 75 years of age.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.	There have been no changes or additions in these Services and I refer you to my Reports for 1937 and 1938.
Ambulance Facilities.	
Nursing in the Home.	
Treatment Centres and Clinics.	
Hospitals.	

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

These are substantially the same as in 1938, and do not need further elaboration. Some details of the various services undertaken may be of interest and are described below.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The total number of women who attended was 325, an increase of 24 as compared with 1938. The total attendances made by these women was 611. 10 cases were referred to a Consultant for Pelvic contraction or other abnormalities, of whom 6 were admitted to The Women's Hospital, Peel Street, Nottingham, for their confinements. Seven other women were admitted to the same Hospital either as "emergencies" or after consultation had been obtained at the house of the patient. Five women were admitted to the County Institution, Basford, because of unsuitable home surroundings. In five cases a Consultant was obtained to visit the patient in her own home at the request of the Doctor in charge of the case.

Dental Treatment of Expectant Mothers and Pre-School Children.

Fifty women were referred for consultation to the Dental Surgeon, of whom 11 refused further treatment. Forty-three children were also referred for necessary treatment.

Ophthalmic Treatment (Provision of Spectacles).

Four children were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon under the scheme outlined in my report for 1938.

Treatment of Minor Ailments.

105 children received treatment at the School Clinic for various disabilities.

Orthopædic Treatment.

This is carried out at the Julien Cahn Clinic. I have taken the following particulars from the statement given me by the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. Barker, for the year under review. The number of children under five years of age attending was 62, of whom 51 received treatment, the remainder attending for Surgical examination only. Payment is made by the Local Authority for treatment cases only, and this amounted to £195. 2. 6d. Also the Local Authority accepted responsibility for maintenance of one child receiving treatment in Harlow Wood Hospital.

Miss D. N. Miles has given the following statistics on the Infant Welfare work generally:—

Number of Births notified	...	...	...	...	399
Number of Births unnotified	...	...	...	...	0
Number of Births notified by Doctors	...	...	...	...	0
Number of Births notified by Midwives	...	...	...	...	399
Number of Cases attended by Doctors (who were engaged) and Midwives	...	...	...	...	23
Number of Cases attended by Midwives alone	...	...	...	...	276
Number of Cases in which Medical assistance was asked for	...	...	...	...	90
Number of Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	24
Number of Twinbirths	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Births transferred to this district	...	...	...	...	16
Number of Births transferred from this district to others	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Families with young children who came to reside in this district	...	...	...	...	74
Number of Families with young children who left this district	...	...	...	...	54

Systematic Visiting.

Number of first visits	...	...	...	...	380
Number of subsequent visits	...	...	...	...	1609
Number of visits to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	1928
Number of visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	101
Number of visits to cases of Measles and Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	25

Infant Welfare Centre.

Number of infants on Register under 1 year	...	...	...	...	358
Number of children on Register between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	860

Attendances at Welfare Centre.

Number of attendances by infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	4830
Number of attendances by children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	4127
Average attendances per session	...	...	...	...	61

Under the Scheme for the provision of Fresh and Dried Milk to pregnant and nursing mothers and children under school age, 4,543 gallons of cows' milk and 1,599 pounds of dried milk were supplied either free or at half cost. These amounts are substantially less than those supplied in 1938.

At the Welfare Centre, many other articles have been sold at cost price, or issued free in necessitous cases to mothers attending the Centre.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**Water Supply.**

I refer you to Mr. H. M. Aitchison's report.

I append a Report of the Analysis of sample submitted in March, 1940.

**REPORT OF ANALYSIS OF WATER FROM THE
TOWN MAINS AT BUTLER'S HILL.**

Received 27th March, 1940, from the Hucknall Urban District Council.

"This sample contains per 100,000 parts :

Total Solids dried at 180°C.	.....	.....	18.00
Suspended Matter	.....	.....	absent
Chlorides as chlorine	.....	.....	2.13
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	.....	.....	0.44

Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	.....	.....	absent
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	0.0048
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	0.0024
Temporary Hardness	.....	.....	5.00
Permanent Hardness	.....	.....	7.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F.	.....	.....	0.004
pH value	.....	.....	7.90
Appearance	.....	.....	clear and bright
Odour	.....	.....	nil
Taste and Colour	.....	.....	normal
Total No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hours	.....	.....	2
Total No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hours	.....	.....	2
Total No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hours	.....	.....	5
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hours	.....	.....	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hours	.....	.....	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	.....	.....	Absent in 100 c.c.
Free Chlorine	.....	.....	absent

The sample is of satisfactory bacterial quality for public supply.

(Signed) W. W. Taylor, B.Sc., F.L.C.

Public Analyst for the City of Nottingham."

I am indebted to Mr. H. M. Aitchison, the Surveyor and Engineer, for the following statement:—

1.—Water.

The following main extensions have been carried out—Beauvale Estate, Broxtowe Drive, Appledene Estate, and supply to Sewage Disposal Works.

The old reservoir has again been empty throughout the year and a high level has been maintained in the new reservoir to meet the demands of the district.

I have again had considerable anxiety in regard to the quantity of water in the wells at the Pumping Station. The scheme for the sinking of a new borehole was eventually approved by the Ministry of Health and the work is now in progress. It is to be hoped that when the borehole and Pumping Plant are completed and in operation, there will be no further anxiety as to the supply of water. In regard to the quality of the water, a report from the Public Analyst on the 3rd June revealed the presence of bacillus coli in the sample of water taken from a tap in the town, and it was confirmed on the 5th June by an analysis of a sample taken from the well. The water in the well was chlorinated forthwith and chlorination has been carried out ever since without cessation. I have endeavoured to trace the source of this infection, but although I have my own opinions on the matter, it is difficult

to state definitely what was the real cause. Since the chlorination apparatus has been installed, weekly samples have been taken both from the well and from the town and all have been satisfactory.

2.—Drainage and Sewerage.

The Main Sewerage Scheme is still in progress and sections have been completed in Watnall Road, Nabbs Lane, Nottingham Road to Watnall Road via Farleys Lane, and a section of the southern outfall from the Works to the railway lines. It is hoped that the laying of the sewers will be completed this year, but work has been temporarily suspended owing to war conditions. The Contract for the construction of the new Sewage Disposal Works was let to Messrs. Bowmer and Kirkland, of Heage. Good progress has been made. It is hoped that the construction of the Works will be completed and that they will be in use this year. Negotiations were continued for the sewerage of Nottingham Road and Moor Lane. The effluent from the Sewage Works has been analysed periodically and the reports have been uniformly satisfactory. Temporary Works were installed to deal with the storm water overflow from the Northern outfall, and these have proved to be very satisfactory.

3.—Swimming Baths and Pools.

Owing to war conditions and the temporary arrangements for the Swimming Baths to be used as a Cleansing Station, the Swimming Baths were closed to the general public except for slipper baths.

H. M. AITCHISON.

Action taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928, and other Acts.

Regulations under this heading are administered by the County Council. Mr. E. Templeman, Chief Inspector, has supplied the following statement.

The total number of articles purchased by Inspectors was 70, of which 50 were samples of Milk. All the samples taken proved genuine.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Number of Samples taken:

Accredited, 30. Complied, 23. Failed to comply, 7.

Additional Informal Samples of Milk Tested by the Inspectors by "Gerber" Tester.

				Results	
				Correct	Incorrect
No. of Samples taken	...	...	73	73	—

Housing.

The following particulars are presented in the manner prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	128
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	299
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1936	28
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	47
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	14
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	33

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their officers	39
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(1) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	79
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	72
(b) By the Local Authority in default of owners	3
(2) Proceeding under Public Health Acts:—	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	10
(b) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(i) By owners	11
(ii) By the Local Authority in default of owners	0

(3) Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	9
(4) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	21
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	23
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	338 164
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	39
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	305
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it desirable to report	—

According to the rate books, there were 153 more houses in occupation than in the preceding year.

As usual, I put in here the explanatory tables drawn up by Mr. E. H. Adams, which show clearly what has been done re Slum Clearance during the past nine years.

REVIEW OF HOUSING PROGRESS SINCE 1930.

Being work carried out under Sections 1, 2, 17, 18, and 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, and Section 9, 10, 11, 25, and 26 of the Housing Act of 1936.

Sections 1 and 2, Housing Act, 1930.
Sections 25 and 26, Housing Act, 1936.

TABLE I.

Area.	Date of Resolution.	Date of Enquiry.	Date of Confirmation.	No. of houses	Number Demolished	Number made fit	No. of Persons Displaced
Gilbert Street	13th July, 1931	19th May, 1932	9th November, 1932	43	39	4	182
Wood Lane (No. 1)	13th March, 1934	23rd October, 1934	31st January, 1935	5	5	0	14
Wood Lane (No. 2)	do.	do.	do.	2	2	0	6
Mellows' Row	do.	do.	do.	8	8	0	27
North Hill	10th April, 1934	do.	do.	9	9	0	27
Lambert Hill	11th December, 1934	14th May, 1935	23rd July, 1935	7	7	0	21
Mill Yard	do.	do.	do.	5	4	1	16
Chequers Yard	do.	do.	do.	3	3	0	11
Allen Street (No. 1).	do.	do.	do.	11	11	0	54
Beardall Street (No. 1)	10th December, 1935	16th March, 1937	28th June, 1937	2	2	0	10
General Street and Axford's Yard	do.	do.	do.	4	4	0	19
Orchard Street	do.	do.	do.	2	2	0	2
Portland Road (No. 1)	do.	do.	do.	5	5	0	19
Bestwood Road	do.	do.	do.	5	5	0	15
Hankin Street (No. 1)	do.	do.	do.	2	2	0	1
Hankin Street (No. 2)	do.	do.	do.	2	2	0	0
The Connery	do.	do.	do.	9	9	0	22
Chapel Street and Half Moon Yard	16th January, 1936	do.	do.	6	6	0	19
Beardall Street (No. 2)	11th February, 1936	—	28th June, 1937	4	2	2	6
Allen Street (No. 2)	13th July, 1936	16th March, 1937	do.	3	3	0	6
Allen Street (No. 3)	do.	do.	do.	5	5	0	23
Allen Street (No. 4)	do.	do.	do.	4	4	0	15
Allen Street (No. 5)	do.	do.	do.	3	3	0	9
Forge Mills	10th January, 1938	15th June, 1938	August, 1938	2	0	0	6
Portland Road	do.	do.	do.	13	13	0	58
Millott's Yard	do.	do.	do.	15	15	0	20
Spring Street	do.	do.	do.	3	3	0	13
Ball's Yard	do.	do.	do.	5	5	0	8
Bottom Common	Remainder of 1938 and 1939 Programme.	do.	do.	4	0	0	0
Beardall Street (No. 3)				—	—	—	—
Position at the end of Year 1939	30	28	28	194	178	7	629

TABLE II.

Sections 17 and 18, Housing Act,
1930.
Section 9 and 10, Housing Act,
1936.

Informal Action	Number of houses rendered fit	
	By Owners	By Council in default
(39)	(72)	(3)
368	412	67

TABLE III.

Section 19, Housing Act, 1930.
Section 11, Housing Act, 1936.

Notices of Time & Place issued	Under- takings accepted	Demolition Orders made	Houses demolished	No. of houses rendered fit	No. of houses closed	No. of persons re-housed
(2)	(6)	(0)	(9)	(35)	(2)	(54)
189	122	59	51	105	9	264

The lower set of figures denote total since 1930.

N.B.—Figures in brackets relate to work carried out in the Year 1939 only.

Summary of Tables I., II., and III.

Total number of houses made fit by the 31st December, 1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	954
Total number of houses demolished by the 31st December, 1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	235 (48 in 1939)
Total number of persons re-housed by the 31st December, 1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	893 (69 in 1939)
Number of houses under consideration at the end of the year, 1939	.....	.....	.....	.....	141

Of the 141 houses under consideration at the end of the year:

- 2 are awaiting demolition in existing Clearance Areas.
- 8 are in proposed Clearance Areas.
- 47 have been considered by your Health Committee under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- 84 are the subject of action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Of the 47 under Section 11:

10 are awaiting demolition.

Work is not completed and the time limit expired at 11.
(These are in Leverton's Row, Hankin Street, and 2-12, Byron Street, outstanding since 1936).

In 6 cases undertakings were accepted, but work not commenced.

20 cases are under consideration.

Of the 84 notices outstanding under Section 9:

26 were the subject of Informal Notices.

58 were the subject of Statutory Notices.

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever has been prevalent throughout the year, 139 cases being notified. The spread of infection is directly attributable to the total lack of Hospital accommodation, and as I have stressed this point in many previous reports, I have nothing to add. The disease has been of a mild type and complications have been few.

Diphtheria. There was a slight increase in the number of cases notified over those of the previous year. The majority of these cases occurred during the first quarter, and thus continued the outbreak during the last quarter of 1938. One case proved fatal, and here again it is quite possible that this child's life would have been saved had Hospital accommodation been available.

Measles and Whooping Cough became compulsorily notifiable on November 1st as a War Emergency measure. By the end of the year 31 cases of measles had been notified. As no case was notified prior to November 17th, it is reasonable to suppose that the district was free on November 1st. The first case occurred in a child attending the Infant Department of the National School, and with one exception, all the cases notified came from this Infant Department. The spread

of disease must be regarded as directly attributable to infection at this school.

With the exception of Pneumonia, from which there were 16 deaths, and the above-mentioned case of Diphtheria, there were no deaths from any of the other notifiable diseases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Three cases were notified. Treatment was given at the Eye Infirmary, Nottingham, as out-patients, and full recovery took place in each case.

No artificial immunisation against any disease is carried out in this district. There is nothing further to say about any of the other infectious diseases, so I refer you to the appropriate tables which give the statistical figures.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1939.

Age Periods.	*New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmon- ary		Non-Pul- monary.		Pulmon- ary.		Non-Pul- monary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1								
1— 5				1				1
5—10	2	2						
10—15	2							
15—20		5				2		
20—25	1	2						
25—35	2	2			2	1	1	
35—45	3	1			3			
45—55		1			1			
55—65	1							
65 upwards								
TOTALS	11	13		1	6	3	1	1

*New cases are to include all primary notifications, and any other NEW cases coming to the knowledge of the M.O.H. during the year.

All the Deaths but one occurred in cases previously notified.

The Death Rate per 1000 population is 0.58.

No action has been necessary under:—

(a) Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

(b) Public Health Act, 1925, sec. 62.

The number of cases receiving Sanatorium, or other Institutional treatment, during the year was:—

Males 10, Females 10.

The number of cases remaining on the Register on Dec. 31st was:—

Males 44, Females 48 (Pulmonary).

Males 18, Females 13 (Non-Pulmonary).

TABLE I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1938 and previous years.
Name of District: HUCKNALL URBAN.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transfer- able Deaths of Non- Residents registered in the District.	Transfer- able Deaths of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor- rected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate.			Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births		
												Number	Rate.
1934	17490	286	279	15.8	137	7.8	2	35	17	60	170	10.9
1935	18260	286	285	15.7	160	9.8	3	40	24	84	197	12.2
1936	18630	306	282	15.3	163	8.8	3	60	19	67	220	13.4
1937	19480	327	323	17.0	160	8.4	2	59	24	74	217	12.7
1938	19890	384	388	19.4	163	8.1	1	58	23	59	220	12.3
1939	20600	394	398	19.3	162	7.8	3	75	25	62	234	12.6

TABLE II. Showing Monthly Notifications
of Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS.
Scarlet Fever	3	12	21	14	15	8	13	4	14	7	17	11	139
Diphtheria	2	7	2	2		1			1	2			17
Puerperal Pyrexia	1												1
Pneumonia	3	8	8	5	2		1	1	1	2	7	3	41
Erysipelas		2	3	3	1				2	3	2		16
Measles											5	26	31
Whooping Cough												2	2
Totals	9	29	34	24	18	9	14	5	18	14	31	42	247

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

During the year under review, inspections of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces have been made, as and when necessary.

No Defects have been found and no communications have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories.

WALTER GARSTANG,
M.O.H.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1939.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
HUCKNALL.
May, 1940.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HUCKNALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my tenth Annual Report as Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

It is with regret that I am compelled drastically to curtail the length of the report. Undoubtedly, interesting matter will have to be left out, but a perusal of the statistics contained therein will, I feel sure, satisfy the reader that despite adverse circumstances the sanitary condition of the town has not suffered from neglect.

SHOPS ACTS.

This work has had to be curtailed considerably. Numerous inspections have been made but in no case were unsatisfactory conditions found, and it has not been necessary to serve any notices under the Shops Acts.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Four complaints of smoke nuisance were received during the year. A number of observations were taken and advice given. It was not necessary to serve any notices.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are two baths in the district, one owned by the Council and one owned privately. Frequent visits were made, and in each case the chlorination plant was found to be in proper working order. No complaints were received.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of houses infested—

Council houses	...	...	1
Other houses	...	...	23

Number of houses disinfested—

Council houses	...	...	1
Other houses	...	...	23

The usual methods employed—namely, spraying with insecticides, and fumigation with sulphur dioxide—have proved entirely successful. Precautions taken to ensure that tenants do not carry bed bugs into Council houses include the steam disinfection of bedding, etc., and the spraying of the other furniture with insecticides. In addition, the tenants are instructed to report any signs of re-infestation, and occasional inspections are carried out. During the year, one Council house was successfully fumigated with Hydro Cyanide, the work being carried out by contract. The other disinfections were carried out by the Local Authority.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disinfections were carried out as in previous years by fumigation with formalin gas. During the year a quantity of bedding was destroyed on request.

Enquiries are made at every case of infectious disease as to whether there are any library books in the house, and these are all brought to the office and fumigated before being returned to the Library.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACT, 1923.

No action has been taken under the above Act.

FOOD CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED.

Tables below shew the amount of food destroyed during the year, the number of visits to slaughterhouses, shops, etc. Premises have usually been kept in a cleanly condition, and it has not been necessary to seize any article of food or undertake a prosecution.

Tradespeople generally are anxious to comply with the law, and carry on their businesses in a proper manner.

Animals affected	Disease.	No. of carcasses or organs condemned	Weight			
			Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Cattle	Tuberculosis	7 carcasses	2	2	2	7
"	"	2 heads	.....	.....	2	4
"	"	15 sets of lungs	.....	1	2	22
"	"	9 livers	.....	1	0	2
"	"	1 spleen	.....	.....	.....	4
"	"	Various offals	.....	8	0	46
"	Peritonitis	Various offals	.....	.....	2	24
"	Cirrhosis	4 livers	.....	.....	2	6
"	Abscesses	5 livers	.....	.....	2	19
"	Echinococcus Cysts	2 livers	.....	.....	1	2
"	Inflammation	1 liver	.....	.....	.....	12
Swine	Tuberculosis	8 carcasses	.....	11	2	16
"	"	11 heads	.....	1	1	22
"	"	6 plucks	.....	.....	2	4
"	"	Various offals	.....	.....	.....	20
Sheep	Moribund	2 livers	.....	.....	.....	4
Total Weight			3	10	1	18

OTHER FOODS.

4 tins of corned beef	}	Unsound.
8 tins of ox tongue		
104 lbs. pears		

There is no system of meat marking under Part III. of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 in operation in the district.

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Slaughterhouses.

Number on Register	...	...	...	11
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	780
Infringement of byelaws or regulations	...			0

Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.

Number on register (a) retailers	...	...	...	96
(b) producers	...	...	...	25
Number of inspections	...	...	...	35
Notices served	...	...	...	4
Notices complied with	...	...	...	1

Bakehouses.

Number on register	...	...	...	8
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	27
Notices served	...	...	...	0

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The above Act, providing for the effective stunning of certain animals by means of a mechanical instrument, has been in force since 1933. No cases of cruelty or unnecessary suffering to animals have been observed, and I have not yet heard of an accident happening with the instruments.

Two types of instrument are in use, the Temple Cox and the Cash Captive Bolt Pistol.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One offensive trade, that of a gut scraper, was established in the district last year. Five inspections were made, and one notice to limewash and cleanse the premises was served, and was complied with.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

There are 26 such structures in the district. No complaints were received concerning them, and although 15 inspections were made to them, no unsatisfactory conditions were observed.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF MUSIC HALLS, THEATRES, ETC.

Visits have been made regularly to the two local cinemas and dance halls. In all cases they were found to be well conducted and kept in a clean condition.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Thirty-three complaints were received during the year and in each case the premises were visited and re-visited, bait laid, and supervision maintained until all the vermin were cleared.

During Rat Week a most successful campaign was carried out. Preliminary publicity was obtained by the posting on public hoardings of 100 attractive posters, advertising and news articles in the local press.

16,800 rat baits were purchased (Red Squill Biscuits) and were disposed of as follows:—

Sold to farmers and others	...	...	7,400 baits.
Laid on Council land and property	...	...	9,400 baits.

In addition, 500 barium carbonate baits were laid in the Council's sewers.

RESULT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Section 9 & 11.					Section 11.	Section 12.
Informal Notices Served.	Informal Notices Complied with.	Statutory Notices served.	Statutory Notices Complied with.	Houses Made Fit.	Houses Demolished.	Houses Closed.
110	39	61	76	114	9	2

**SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (EXCLUDING
HOUSING ACTS).**

				Informal Notices		Statutory Notices	
				Ser-ved	Com-plied with	Ser-ved	Com-plied with
Housing defects	{	To remedy dampness .....	.....	9	7	—	—
		„ repair or renew eaves, gutters					
		and downspouts		18	15	—	—
		„ repair chimney stacks .....	.....	1	1	—	—
		„ repair or renew defective windows		2	2	—	—
		„ „ „ „ doors .....	.....	19	19	—	—
		„ „ „ „ floors .....	.....	2	3	—	—
		„ „ „ „ fireplaces .		1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences	{	„ „ „ „ washcoppers		2	1	—	—
		„ cleanse .....	.....	11	9	—	—
		„ repair or renew .....	.....	4	4	—	—
Drains	{	„ provide additional .....	.....	10	7	—	—
		„ cleanse .....	.....	84	81	3	3
		„ repair or renew .....	.....	10	10	—	—
Cesspools		„ provide additional .....	.....	—	—	—	—
Dustbins		„ cleanse .....	.....	—	—	—	—
Yard	{	„ renew .....	.....	443	325	42	41
Paving		„ repair or renew .....	.....	16	15	1	2
Vermin		„ provide additional .....	.....	—	—	6	6
Smoke		„ cleanse premises .....	.....	7	7	—	—
Cowsheds		„ Abate nuisance arising from .....	.....	—	—	—	—
Dairies, etc.		„ limewash and cleanse .....	.....	1	—	—	—
Factories & workshops		Other matters .....	.....	2	—	—	—
Rivers & Streams		Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or insufficient		—	—	—	—
Accumulations or Deposits of Refuse		To remove .....	.....	3	3	—	—
Animals		Improperly kept .....	.....	—	—	—	—
Gut-scraper		To limewash and cleanse .....	.....	1	1	—	—
Slaughter-houses		To limewash and cleanse .....	.....	—	—	—	—
Water	{	To remedy water in cellar .....	.....	3	3	—	—
		To provide internal supply .....	.....	9	9	—	—
Outbuildings		To repair or remove .....	.....	9	9	—	—
Miscellaneous		.....	.....	6	4	—	—

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Cleansing Staff consists of eleven loaders, three lorry drivers, two tip attendants and a foreman. Three mechanical vehicles are employed, each has a capacity of 7 cubic yards and is properly covered.

The valeting of the vehicles is carried out by contract. Each lorry is sent to a local garage once a month and examined. All parts are greased, tyres blown up, battery topped up and oil levels checked. Tests have proved that this system definitely prolongs the life of a vehicle and also materially reduces the length of time it is off the road on account of minor repairs and punctures.

DISPOSAL.

Tipping on Council land was discontinued in June, and since that time about half an acre of privately owned waterlogged land has been reclaimed.

The Bradford System of controlled tipping is the method employed, and during the last four months a large quantity of material which previously would have been buried has been salvaged and saved for the Nation.

Street sweeping is carried out by the Highways Department but the refuse is picked up by the Cleansing lorries along with the household refuse. An allocation of £25 per annum is made to the department for this work, which formerly entailed the employment of a man, horse and cart.

Actual figures are not available at the moment, but the cost of Public Cleansing for the year amounted to approximately £3,500, the cost of collection being £3,000 and disposal £500. This is equivalent to a rate of 11.2d. in the pound.

AMBULANCES.

The two ambulances have been well maintained throughout the year. The General Ambulance has made 458 journeys and the Infectious Disease Ambulance 13 journeys. There were three false calls.

MORTUARY.

The mortuary has been used on six occasions and one Post Mortem was held. The Ambulance Driver is responsible for keeping the premises clean and for the care of the instruments.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION ACTS, 1928 & 1936.

Licences granted	...	...	27
Visits and inspections	...	...	38
Carbide of Calcium licences	...	...	Nil

In conclusion, I wish to place on record the following facts:—

- (i) that Mr. H. S. Wilson, Additional Sanitary Inspector, volunteered for service in the R.A.M.C. at the outbreak of War, and is now with H.M. Forces. He was a popular official and all will wish him luck and safe return;
- (ii) that it would not have been possible to have accomplished during the year so much work without the loyal co-operation of the staff, including the workmen. To them I extend my best thanks.

I also desire to express my very sincere thanks to your Council and the Officials of the Council for the much valued help extended to me throughout the year.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. ADAMS,

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

